



## ***Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea*** **Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet**

### **Woodcarver Bob Gibson Creates Wooden Duck Decoys at Kentucky Artisan Center**

**Release Date**  
**Oct. 16, 2012**

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**BEREA, Ky.** – On Saturday, Oct. 27, woodcarver Bob Gibson of Lawrenceburg will demonstrate how he carves wooden duck decoys, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea.

Originally from San Antonio, Texas, Gibson moved to Kentucky in 1979. His interest in carving decoys developed as an extension of his waterfowl hunting. He began by carving working decoys and progressed to carving miniature and then life-sized decorative decoys. Gibson's work is detailed and true to life with a realism that he attains by looking at real specimens, photographs, or by using his own first-hand knowledge.

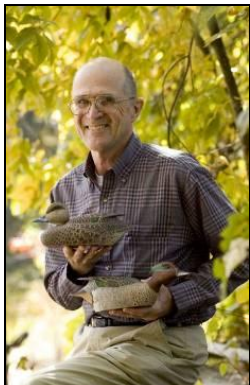
Each decoy starts by cutting trees from the stand of eastern red cedars that grow on Gibson's farm. The wood is dried, and silhouettes are cut from the wood with a band saw. Then a power carver on a flexible shaft is used to finesse the final shape. Using wood burning tools and a rotary tool or power carver, Gibson achieves intricate details. The feather colors are achieved by meticulously painting the decoy with multiple layers of acrylic paint.

Gibson also creates a line of feather jewelry as well as carved duck-calls. His work has won several awards in competitions hosted by the *Ohio Decoy Collectors and Carvers Association* and the *Pacific Flyway Decoy Association*. He is a juried member of the Kentucky Arts Council's Kentucky Crafted Program.

Works by Gibson are regularly available at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea, located at 200 Artisan Way, just off Interstate 75 at Berea exit 77. The center's exhibits, shopping and travel information areas are open daily, year-round, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and the cafe is open from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission is free.

The center currently features works by more than 650 artisans from more than 100 counties across the Commonwealth. A special exhibit, "The Threads that Bind: Textile Works by Kentucky Artisans," will be on display through Feb. 23, 2013. For more information about the center's programming, call 859-985-5448 or visit the center's website [www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov](http://www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov)

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is an agency in the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.



Bob Gibson with his carved decoys